

FREE



STREET LEVEL

FREE



“Where Life Happens”

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www.OurVillageChicago.com

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Happy Thanksgiving
from the Staff of
Village Publications



Evanston Holiday Tree Lighting Nov. 24

Holiday Tree Lighting Tuesday, Nov., 24 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Location: Fountain Square, downtown Evanston, intersection of Sherman, Orrington and Davis Streets.

Evanstonians will gather together to welcome the upcoming holiday season with the annual Evanston Holiday Tree Lighting in Fountain Square.

Downtown Evanston will continue the tradition of the “green” tree lighting ceremony with thousands of reusable LED lights decorating the majestic tree. Also green this year are LED “candles” which the Youth Choir will hold while they sing holiday carols.

Immediately following the ceremony is a festive warm-up reception with holiday goodies hosted by Rotary International in their Café in One Rotary Center, at 1560 Sherman Avenue, across from Fountain Square.

In the spirit of holiday giving, healthful canned goods will be accepted for donation to Hilda's Place, Evanston's emergency housing and support services for the homeless. Free parking is available after 5 p.m. in the One Rotary Center Building garage, with entry on Grove Street just west of Sherman Avenue.

Sponsored by Downtown Evanston, www.evanstondowntown.com. For more information, call (847) 866-6319.



Evanston's Civic Center Renamed to Honor Mayor Morton

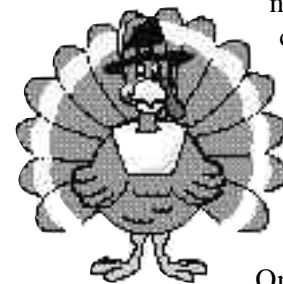
The Evanston City Council rededicated the Civic Center last night to honor former Mayor Lorraine H. Morton. The unveiling ceremony was attended by residents, Morton's family, current and past City Council members along with former Mayors Jay Lytle and Joan Barr. The ceremony was officiated by current Mayor Elizabeth Tisdahl.

Lorraine H. Morton served as Mayor of Evanston from 1993 to 2009. Earlier, Morton worked for nine years as Alderman of Evanston's Fifth Ward. Prior to her term as Alderman, Morton was Principal of Haven Middle School for 12 years and taught at Foster Elementary School, Chute Middle School, and Nichols Middle School. Morton was the first Democrat and first African-American mayor in Evanston's history.

33RD LINCOLNWOOD ANNUAL TURKEY TROT

This annual event will take place on Sunday, November 22nd, and attracts approximately 1,850 participants. The Turkey Trot consists of a 5K & 10K run, a 5K walk, and a Drumstick Dash for children ages 10 and under. Runners and walkers race through the streets of Lincolnwood beginning and ending at the Village's largest park, Proesel Park. All participants receive a goodie bag filled with refreshments and other items as well as a long-sleeved T-shirt.

Turkey trophies are awarded to the top three male and female finishers in each age division. Turkeys are given to the overall male and female finishers in each race. The walk is non-competitive. This is a CARA (Chicago Area Run-



ners Association) certified race and a portion of any proceeds will be donated to the; Y-Me National Breast Cancer Organization, the City of Hope, and the Lincolnwood Scholarship Program. You can register online at www.lincolnwoodil.org, or get more information by visiting the Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation office at 6900 N. Lincoln Ave., or calling (847) 677-9740.

Online registration is available by logging onto www.lincolnwoodil.org and navigating to the Parks and Recreation Department home page, then clicking on the REGISTER NOW button.

For more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

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6666 N. Lincoln Ave.
Lincolnwood, IL 60712
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1018 W. Touhy Ave.
Park Ridge, IL 60068
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A New Series – Page 11 RETIREMENT LIVING/ THE BABY BOOM GENERATION

Understanding and discussing options and the variety of choices available to America's Aging Baby Boomers.

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Farrar Appointed Evanston City Attorney/Corporation Counsel

Evanston City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz announces the appointment of W. Grant Farrar as City Attorney/Corporation Counsel. Mr. Farrar will begin his duties on November 30, 2009. Bobkiewicz also announced a re-organization of the City's Law Department. Corporation Counsel Jack Siegel will now become Of Counsel to the City and Interim First Assistant Corporation Counsel Elke Purze will become Deputy City Attorney.

Farrar is currently a partner at Bollinger, Ruberry and Garvey law firm in Chicago. He has worked for twelve years representing the State of Illinois and Illinois local government clients in a wide variety of cases both in private practice and as an Assistant Cook County State's Attorney and as Assistant Counsel to the Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives.

Farrar received his Bachelors degree in Political Science from the University of Iowa and his Juris Doctor from The John Marshall Law School in Chicago.

"Mr. Farrar brings to Evanston not only outstanding experience representing local governments on a variety of matters in Illinois, but also proven management of legal affairs. This combination of legal experience and law firm management skills will be of great benefit to the City of Evanston," said Bobkiewicz. "I look forward to having Mr. Farrar serve as counselor to the Mayor, City Council, staff and City Manager as we navigate through a very litigious world; his assistance in helping the City of Evanston properly position itself in all legal matters will be invaluable."

"With Mr. Farrar's arrival, it is also an opportunity to recognize the outstanding service of Jack Siegel to the City of Evanston. Siegel's 46 years of service as Evanston's Corporation Counsel was marked by tremendous periods of change in the community and in the city government. I am pleased that Jack will remain associated with the City as Of Counsel," Bobkiewicz added.

With the reorganization of the Law Department, the City Attorney/Corporation Counsel position will return to being a full time City employee. The City Attorney will work with the Deputy City Attorney (which has been a full time staff position previously known as First Assistant Corporation Counsel) and staff Assistant City Attorneys.

Farrar and his wife Shannon reside in Evanston with their daughter Alexandra.

Village of Skokie Schedules H1N1 Community Vaccination Clinics

In December, the Village of Skokie will hold four community H1N1 vaccination clinics that will be open to individuals in the priority groups that include pregnant women, individuals between 6 months to 24 years of age, people age 25 to 64 with underlying medical conditions (such as asthma or diabetes), healthcare workers and caregivers of children under 6 months of age. The clinics will be held at Oakton Community Center, 4701 Oakton Street, according to the following schedule:

Thursday, December 3 and Wednesday, December 9 Noon to 8 p.m.

Sunday, December 6 and Saturday, December 12 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vaccinations are free of charge and will be given by appointment only. A total of 5,000 vaccinations will be given at each clinic. Appointments can be made at www.skokie.org. No walk-ins will be accommodated without an appointment. To gain entry to the clinic, participants must show the printed confirmation or the identification code they will receive when registering for an appointment. All participants under age 18 will need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The December clinics follow the Village's successful school H1N1 vaccination campaign. From mid-October through mid-November, 2009, the Skokie Health Department held 53 H1N1 vaccination clinics in every Skokie school, preschool and day care center. Approximately 10,000 children received vaccinations through this effort. Skokie is among only a very few area communities to implement a community wide school vaccination campaign in response to the national H1N1 flu pandemic.

"The Village's H1N1 school vaccination campaign has been a tremendous success," comments Skokie Health Director Dr. Catherine Counard. "Skokie's effort included all public and private schools, and the program resulted in many at-risk individuals receiving the H1N1 vaccine. The campaign would not have been possible without the assistance of many volunteers, nursing students from Oakton Community College and dedicated Village staff from many departments who assisted with the effort."

The Village expects that there will soon be adequate H1N1 vaccine supplies to offer vaccinations to people not in the current national priority groups. Please check www.skokie.org and listen to 1660 AM Skokie for updates.

Walker Appointed Evanston Director of Community Development

Evanston City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz has announced the appointment of Lehman O. Walker as Director of Community Development. Mr. Walker will begin his duties on December 7, 2009.

Walker brings to the position over thirty years of municipal community development experience both in the United States and Canada. Walker is currently Director of Community Development for the City of University City, Missouri where he has held that position since 1998. Prior to his service there, Walker served for six years as General Manager of Planning and Development for the City of Surrey, British Columbia, Canada and four years as Director of Planning and Community Services for the City of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Walker received a Bachelors degree in Social Science and Masters Degree in City and Regional Planning from California State University, Fresno. Additionally, Walker holds a second Masters Degree from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University in Public Administration and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).

"Mr. Walker brings to Evanston a wealth of community development and economic development experience," explained Wally Bobkiewicz, Evanston City Manager. "His last eleven years in working for University City has exposed him to many of the same challenges faced by Evanston. University City is similarly a diverse community with a large college student/faculty presence due to its proximity to Washington University in St. Louis."

"I look forward to Mr. Walker assisting Evanston in moving forward in the critical areas of economic development, community planning, affordable housing and code enforcement," added Bobkiewicz.

The City of Evanston's Community Development Department provides overall program administration and coordination for housing, planning, zoning, economic development, property standards, building permits and construction activities.

Liberty Bank for Savings to Host Life Line Screenings

Friday, Dec. 4, Liberty Bank will host Life Line Screenings community preventive health screenings at its Norwood branch, 6210 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago. Pre-registration is required. Appointment times begin at 9 a.m. and fill quickly. Please call Life Line Screenings directly at 800.324.1851 for your appointment. Applicable charges apply.

Liberty Bank for Savings has been providing safe and secure banking service since 1898. The community bank, with offices on the northwest side of Chicago, in Park Ridge and Lincolnwood, celebrates its 111th anniversary in 2009. For more information call 773.489.4471 or visit www.libertybank.com.

2010 Evanston Vehicle Stickers

Vehicle stickers for 2010 are on sale at the City Collector's office as of Mon., Nov. 16. Every vehicle registered with the Illinois Secretary of State under an address within the City of Evanston must have a 2010 vehicle sticker displayed in its window by Jan. 11, 2010.

Passenger car vehicle stickers cost \$75, and applications received after January 11 will incur a 50% penalty charge. Senior citizens ages 65 and older may be eligible to receive an income-based 50% discount on vehicle stickers. Pre-printed applications will be mailed out the week of November 23rd to all registered owners with a vehicle registered to an Evanston address.

To purchase by mail, send in the completed pre-printed vehicle sticker application to the address on the return envelope. The City Collector's office, located at 2100 Ridge Ave., is open Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended hours on select Saturdays and weekdays in December and January.

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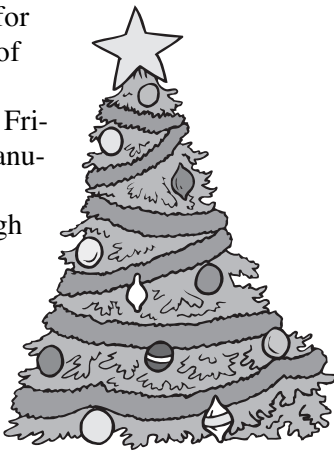
View Over 90 Holiday Trees and Enjoy a Colorful Display of Traditional Decorations from Around the World

More than 90 Christmas trees, decorated by different ethnic groups of Cook County, will be on display for the public to see this holiday season in the Office of Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas.

Viewing of the colorful holiday tree display starts Friday, November 20, 2009, and runs through Friday January 8, 2010. The public is welcome to view the traditional decorated Christmas trees Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in Room 112 of the Cook County Building, 118 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL.

Along with the 90 plus Christmas trees is a menorah from the Jewish celebration of Chanukah, a Kinara from the African American celebration of Kwanzaa, a Prayer Thali from the Hindu Faith and a Ramadan Mubarak from Islam. For information about the holiday tree display, phone 312.603.5529 or 312.603.6237

Groups are welcome.



Free Holiday Garage Parking in Downtown Evanston

Evanston's three downtown self-park garages along with Lot 60 will offer free holiday parking starting November 26th and ending January 2nd. The hours of the free garage parking will be weekdays from 5 p.m. until midnight and Saturdays all day.

The free holiday parking is to encourage people to take advantage of the wonderful shops, cafes, restaurants and other attractions of downtown Evanston and the Dempster/Chicago business area.

The parking areas are located at: Sherman Plaza Self Park - Davis St. & Benson Ave.; Maple Ave. Self Park - 1800 Maple Ave.; Church St. Self Park at Church St. and Chicago Ave.; and Lot 60 - 1234 Chicago Ave.

Evanston Mayor's Award for the Arts

Every year, one individual and one arts organization of Evanston are recognized for their contributions to the community through demonstration of excellence in the arts. Recipients are selected from nominations from the public at large. The Awards are presented at the Annual State of the City Address and Mayor's Award for the Arts Luncheon. Nominations for the 2009 Award are due Fri., Dec. 4, 2009.

Evanston Resident Receives Terkel Humanities Award

Mayor Elizabeth B. Tisdahl and the Illinois Humanities Council (IHC) are proud to announce that Chie Curley of Evanston is the recipient of the 2009 Studs Terkel Humanities Service Award. This local "humanities hero" has been recognized for her outstanding efforts on behalf of the humanities in her community.

The award recognizes Curley for her outstanding work as curator of visual art exhibitions at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, her service on Evanston's Public Art Committee, and her generous donation of a sculpture to be displayed as public art for all members of the Evanston community.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and Santa House November 25

The City of Chicago and Underwriters Laboratories (UL) are proud to present the official start of the holiday season at the 96th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, Wednesday, November 25! The Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony is a highly-anticipated event drawing people of all ages to the heart of Chicago's downtown "Loop." Musical performances and festive holiday music begin at 4:00 p.m. and the holiday season officially commences at 4:30 p.m., when the switch is flipped and the lights begin to dazzle in Daley Plaza.

Jolly Old St. Nick will again grace the plaza with his holiday cheer in his Midwest satellite workshop on Daley Plaza! Visits with Santa Claus start on Wednesday, November 25 at 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and with special hours on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Eve from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Regular hours will begin on Friday, November 27 and continue every Friday, Saturday and Sunday only through December 20 from 11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Please note Santa takes a break each day from 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.). Santa will be available for photos so don't forget your personal cameras.

For more information visit www.explorechicago.org/specialevents

Lincolnwood Holiday Craft Fair

A diverse selection of crafters and vendors from the North Shore will be on hand offering gifts and treasures for your shopping pleasure. Plenty of parking is available in the Lincolnwood Village Hall parking lot which is adjacent to the Community Center. There will also be a children's Make n' Take craft area, and a Holiday Fresh Greens Wreath Workshop (pre-registration is required).

Saturday, December 12th 9:00am - 3:00pm

Lincolnwood Community Center, 6900 N. Lincoln Avenue

Fee: \$2.00 Admission

Children under 12 get in free if they bring a can of food to be donated to a local food depository.

Online registration is available by logging onto www.lincolnwoodil.org and navigating to the Parks and Recreation Department home page, then clicking on the REGISTER NOW button.

For more information contact the Lincolnwood Parks & Recreation Office at (847) 677-9740.

Be Sure to Attend Liberty Bank's Free Showing of "It's a Wonderful Life" Benefitting the Park Ridge Community Fund

The holiday season is fast approaching, so mark your calendars to attend Liberty Bank for Savings' showing of "It's a Wonderful Life" on Sunday, Dec. 13. Families and individuals of all ages are invited to attend this joyous holiday event at the historic Pickwick Theater in Park Ridge. Admission is free but donations to the Park Ridge Community Fund (PRCF) are gratefully accepted.

The Pickwick Theatre is located at 5 S. Prospect Avenue, at the six-corner intersection with Touhy Avenue and Northwest Highway. Holiday music and refreshments will start at 3 pm with the movie set to begin at 4 p.m.

Donations will be accepted on-site for the Park Ridge Community Fund. The PRCF will also hold a raffle for prizes to assist in raising additional funds for social service organizations that serve the Park Ridge community. "We are very pleased to be able to again present It's a Wonderful Life for the 9th holiday season. We are sincerely grateful to our new sponsor-partner, Liberty Bank, for their most generous support of this annual campaign effort," says Carol Delorin, PRCF Executive Director.

Liberty Bank for Savings has been providing safe and secure banking service since 1898. The community bank, with offices on the northwest side of Chicago, in Park Ridge and Lincolnwood, celebrates its 111th anniversary in 2009. For more information call 773-489-4471 or visit www.libertybank.com.

St. Thecla Women's Council

Holiday Craft and Gift Show

December 12, 2009
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Holiday Crafts, Gifts & Goodies
Hourly Raffle
Snack Bar

Admission 50¢
Devon & Oak Park Ave.
6725 W. Devon Ave. (773) 774-7391



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- Old Holiday Items
- Old Costume Jewelry
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Kids Did A Good Deed With Bears of Hope



Children creating fabric designs to be used to make Bears of Hope for kids needing TLC.

On November 7th, 2009, Bears of Hope, a Skokie-based volunteer organization, that makes huggable handcrafted fabric bears for sick and needy children and adults presented a "Community Children's Craft Program" sponsored by First American Bank, Skokie. Children between the ages of 5 - 15 came to the bank and using their artistic imagination designed unprinted fabric with fabric paint markers. Volunteers from Bears of Hope will be able to make twenty bears from the designs the children created at the Craft Program. The bears will be given to the Skokie Fire Department for Skokie Firefighters to give to children suffering trauma from fire disasters. Bears of Hope founder, Carolyn Reiner, said "The children's designs are awesome. They will make wonderful huggable bears for children needing TLC". The Bears of Hope's Community Children Craft Program gives children an opportunity to understand what it means to "give back" and help kids needing TLC while having a fun-filled creative experience. The organization has presented this program as a Mitzvah Project, children's group project, and for birthday celebrations.

Students at Orchard Academy prepared the fabric the children used at the Craft Program. Orchard Academy prepares students ages 17-22 with cognitive, emotional, and/or learning disabilities to transition into adult living and earn their high school diploma. By volunteering to help Bears of Hope with various tasks in making bears, the students develop work and life skills.

Civic and social service organizations are given bears to bring to individuals they serve. There is no charge to the organization or recipient for the bears. Bears of Hope relies on volunteers and donations. All financial gifts received are used to purchase materials to make bears. They have no paid staff. From their modest beginning in 2007 when only 50 bears were made, over 500 bears are now bringing hugs and comfort to sick and needy children and adults.

For more information, contact Bears of Hope 847-673-4098 or Bears@bearsofhope.com. Contributions can be mailed to Bears of Hope, 8331 N. Kostner, Skokie, IL 60076.

Village of Skokie Lending Closet

The Village of Skokie Human Services Division Lending Closet offers Skokie residents the use of canes, walkers, crutches and wheelchairs for periods up to six months. A driver's license or state ID is required for wheelchair loans. For wheelchairs only, there is a \$25.00 refundable deposit for a 24-hour period or for up to a five-day loan period. The Lending Closet also offers a \$25.00 non-refundable loan up to a maximum of six months.

The lending closet is open Monday through Friday at the Smith Center, 5120 Galitz, between 9 and 10:30 a.m. and again from 2 to 4:00 p.m. For more information please contact the Human Services Division at 847/933-8208.

Save Energy & Reduce Your Carbon Footprint - Take the Energy Star Pledge

ComEd and the City of Evanston are asking residents to take the Energy Star Pledge. The pledge asks residents to reduce home energy use through simple steps including changing your lights to energy star qualified lights, programming your thermostat, choosing energy star appliances and activating the energy star settings on your computer. These simple actions will save you money on your utilities while helping Evanston compete in the ComEd Community Energy Challenge and meet the greenhouse gas emission reduction goal outlined in the Evanston Climate Action Plan (ECAP). When completing the pledge, please select 'City of Evanston' as the organization that referred you.

For more information go to http://www.cityofevanston.org/global/green/resident_energy/energy-challenge.shtml

Remember Your Special One-Day Liquor License for Your Event

Evanston entities are required to apply for a Special One-Day Liquor License when beer and wine service or consumption is provided at events conducted/hosted by an educational, business, fraternal, civic, religious, or not-for-profit organization. Applicants are able to obtain up to twelve (12) Special One-Day Liquor Licenses in a calendar year. For further information on Special One-Day Liquor Licenses, please contact the Liquor and Special Projects Coordinator at 847/448-8266. Special One-Day Liquor Licenses are not just for upcoming holiday office parties, but are required anytime for events serving liquor as described above.

Get Active in your Community- Apply for a Board, Committee or Commission Position

The City of Evanston has several Boards, Committees and Commissions which, from time to time, have vacancies. Area residents are encouraged to become more involved in their community by submitting applications to serve on these boards.

All applications are kept on file for consideration when a vacancy occurs. The Mayor then reviews the applications and makes recommendations to the City Council for approval. The Mayor always attempts to make appointments that represent the great diversity of our community.

For those residents interested in possibly serving in this capacity or who would like to fill out an application, please visit our "Boards and Committees" web page or call 847/448-8268.



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Evanston Snow Parking Regulations

Evanston’s snow plan is a cooperative effort. These are the basic rules we ask you to follow:

- * Don’t park on the Snow Routes at night.
- * During a snow emergency, park on the proper side of residential streets between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- * Clear your sidewalks of snow and ice.
- * Clear parking lots for which you are responsible, without pushing snow into adjacent streets, alleys or sidewalks.

Snow parking regulations are in effect from December 1 through March 31

HOW DO I FIND OUT IF THERE IS A SNOW EMERGENCY?

1. Call the Snow Hotline at 847-864-SNOW or 847-866-2917
2. Tune in to Cable Channel 16
3. Check this webpage and/or the city homepage
4. Sign up for the City E-Newsletter and receive snow parking email updates
5. Listen to Evanston Radio AM 1650
6. Emergency sirens will be used to alert people to move their cars.
7. Follow us on Twitter or Facebook

Inquiries or complaints about snow removal should be directed to Streets and Sanitation, (847) 866-2940, or publicworks@cityofevanston.org.

Evanston Firewood Sale Began Nov. 7

The City of Evanston’s annual firewood sale began Saturday, Nov. 7, and continues weekly while supplies last. Sale hours are 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays at 2310 Oakton St. (between the former Recycling Center and the Animal Shelter).

The cost is \$25 per 1/8 face cord; \$40 per 1/4 face cord; \$70 per 1/2 face cord; or \$125 per full face cord. Payment by personal check is preferred although payment can also be made by cash. Credit cards are not accepted, and delivery is not available. Once supplies are depleted, the Saturday sales will be discontinued for the year.

Free woodchips are also available at the base of the hill in adjacent James Park. Residents can take as many woodchips as they would like. For more information, call 847-866-2912.

Public Input Sought on CTA Purple Line

The City of Evanston and the CTA invite residents to a CTA Open House on Thurs., Dec. 3 at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Center, 1655 Foster St., from 6-8:30 p.m.

In honor of Veterans’ Day and to pay tribute to our Active Duty Service Men and Women



6693 Northwest Hwy, Chicago
(773) 763-4247

offers them a 25% discount on any of our services to all Active Duty Service People and their Spouses. Simply present your Service ID at the time of the appointment.
(Good through the end of November, 2009)



Community Budget Workshops Continue November 30

The third of four Community Budget Workshops will be held this evening at 7 p.m. at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Center, 1655 Foster St.

Idea generation and development around service levels, service efficiencies, cost containment, non-tax revenue sources, and other innovations will be discussed. The public is reminded that direct participation in this workshop and the remaining workshops is based on having attended the first Budget Workshop held November 7th. All residents are still encouraged to attend as observers, but participation will be limited to those who attended the first meeting.

Can’t attend the workshops? Sign up to participate online at www.cityofevanston.org/budget. All meeting materials will be available on the website and online participants will have an opportunity to provide feedback on suggestions and topics from the workshops.

BUCKTOWN: A Joy-FULL Celebration of Friendship III

It began with an initial article (July, 2006) regarding BUCKTOWN, an area to which the editors of this newspaper would begin to distribute OUR VILLAGE PUBLICATION. Twenty-eight informative, historical and comical articles (2 years later) upon the suggestion of a number of OVP readers a BUCKTOWN reunion was in formation., Fr. Rog, together with Vivian Kolpak (co-owner of the House of the White Eagle Restaurant and Banquet Halls, Milwaukee Avenue in Niles) undertook the project.

Not expecting any great response, the 1st Joy-FULL Celebration of Friendship had an attendance of more than 225 persons. A unanimous applause was the response to a possible second Celebration for 2008.

The 3rd Joy-FULL Celebration took place at the White Eagle on November 8, 2009. The format of the celebration was the same as in the previous years: A cocktail hour with a promptly served dinner and two hours of friendship. During the hours of friendship, a grand raffle spearheaded by Tony Pawlicki, 72 prizes were available: a liquor basket, autographed bats and balls of members of Chicago Cubs and White Sox, a certified Walter Payton plaque, certificates of various restaurants, other elegant prizes, as well as 20 home-baked cakes.

Similarly, an interesting poor Man’s Raffle has become a highlight of the evening. Gifts of \$5.00 or more – wrapped in newspaper and string (no fancy paper and ribbons) were contributed by the attendees. Each on in attendance was able to select a gift before the Friendship Hours were over.

A committee of Tony Pawlicki, Ron and Carol Obuchowski, Art Malinowski and Doug Gill began to lay plans for the Celebration IV for November 2010.

“Somatic” to Open at Evanston’s Noyes Art Gallery

The new art exhibition “Somatic” opens Wednesday, Nov. 18, at Noyes Arts Gallery in Evanston. An artist reception, free and open to the public, will be held 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22, in the gallery.

“Somatic” showcases artworks related to the human body, including kimonos by Loni Diep, embroidery work by Lindsay Obermeyer and mixed media art by Renee Prisble Una. The exhibition will remain on display through Jan. 10. The Noyes Art Gallery is located within the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston; admission is always free. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. The building is accessible, and group tours are available. For information, call 847-448-8260.

The James Downing Theatre Winter Fundraiser Event

The James Downing Theatre will present its winter fundraiser event, HOLIDAY CABARET, on Saturday, December 5th, 2009, at the John Waldron Arts Center housed at Edison Park United Methodist Church, 6740 North Oliphant Avenue, Chicago, IL 60631. Doors open at 7:00 pm and the show begins at 7:30 pm. The show features LIVE Performances of Festive Holiday Music, Comedy Skits, a Silent Auction, and many more Surprises!

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for senior citizens and students and can be purchased Online at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/90711>, or Reserved by Calling (224) 72-JDOWN or E-Mailing jamesdowningtheatre@gmail.com. On the voice-mail you leave or in the e-mail you send, please provide... Your full name (first & last), The name & date of the performance you’d like to attend, the number of Adult tickets you’d like reserved, the number of Senior/Student tickets you’d like reserved and your phone number and/or your e-mail address.

For more information, visit our website at <http://jamesdowningtheatre.typepad.com>.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION SPACE AND GROUP

The James Downing Theatre produces their shows at the John Waldron Arts Center, housed at Edison Park United Methodist Church, 6740 North Oliphant Avenue, Chicago, IL 60631. These programs were established to bring community theatre back to Edison Park, and are in memory of two men who devoted their lives and talents to the performing arts.

The late James Downing, an Edison Park native and long-time Park Ridge resident, worked in the Chicago theater community for more than 40 years, directing shows, and teaching acting at the Peggy Sommers Studio in Edison Park (predecessor of the Studio of Dance and Drama in Norwood Park). Among his students were professional actors Karen Black, Carrie Snodgrass and Howard Platt and future U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The late John Waldron, a teacher at Maine South High School, taught a youth acting class, and was very active as an actor in the northwest suburban community theatre scene. He was also a founding member of the Mount Prospect Theatre Society.

The James Downing Theatre Board includes residents from Chicago’s North Side and north and northwest suburbs including Skokie, Glenview, Mundelein, Mount Prospect and Arlington Heights.

LOCAL SCHOOLS & YOUTH EVENTS

EVANSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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All-Village Singers Holiday Carols Sunday November 22nd, 3:00 pm

Community Meeting Room, Main Library
All-Village Singers performs a wonderful variety of multi-cultural holiday music in exciting and unusual arrangements. The program consists of secular holiday pop songs, interspersed with Hanukkah songs and traditional carols.

Friday Films: Avalon

Friday, November 27, 3 pm, Community Meeting Room, Main Library
Avalon (1990, 126 min, rated PG)

This film is a compelling, amusing tale about an extended family that comes to America one by one, each earning enough to bring the next sibling. The new, American-born generation sees a future in that mysterious machine known as the television, even as the older generation finds its traditions being put aside. Funny, tragic, and telling, it's a terrific, multifaceted film that ultimately details the breakdown of the oral tradition in the wake of television's burgeoning popularity.

Oakton Offers Four December Music Recitals

Oakton Community College hosts several joyful musical performances in December. All of these concerts are scheduled at Oakton's Des Plaines campus, 1600 E. Golf Road. Parking is always free.

Under the direction of Eileen Berman, solo vocalists and duets alike herald the winter solstice at "Winter Recital," 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 5, at Studio One. Admission is free.

"Choral Recital" offers selections from *Rent*, *Miss Saigon*, and other Broadway shows, as well as compositions by Schubert and Dvorak, performed by the Oakton Community Choir. The concert begins at 8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 10, in the Footlik Theater. Admission is free.

The legendary Oakton Jazz Band, directed by Robert Evans, presents timeless tunes by Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, and Horace Silver during "Jazz Invasion," 8 p.m., Friday, Dec. 11, at the Footlik Theater. General admission is \$5, senior and student tickets \$3.

Guitar instructor Tom Clippert and the Oakton Guitar Ensemble present an afternoon of stringed music at "Guitar Recital," 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13, at Studio One. Admission is free.

For more information, call the Oakton Box Office at 847-635-1900.

St. Peter Catholic School Hosts 2 Open Houses in December

St. Peter School, 8140 Niles Center Road in Skokie will host an Open House on December 2 and 9 from 9:00-11:a.m. Come and see everything St. Peter has to offer. All day Preschool, All day Kindergarten and a challenging curriculum for grades 1-8 which includes Spanish, Music Art and choir. Classes will be in session so you can meet the teachers. We have an after school program from 3-6:00 p.m. as well as after school programs such as Mad Science, Chess, Dance, Art and Acting.

The traditional Halloween Parade took place on October 30. All classes participated. Prizes were given for the scariest, funniest and most original costumes. We also had a pumpkin carving contest and a scary story contest which everyone enjoyed.

The St. Peter volleyball teams regular season has come to an end. The teams final records were 5th grade 12-1, 7th grade 11-7 and 8th grade 15-5. The 8th grade girls finished in 2nd place in the league. They will host their first play off game against St.Hilary School in Chicago.

Report cards were handed out on November 6. There is a special Honors Breakfast on November 16 for all Honor Roll recipients in grades 4-8. Parent Conferences are schedule for November 24. We will also have a Thanksgiving Prayer Service prepared by our 2nd grade students.

St. Peter Student Council sponsored many events during Red Ribbon Week (drug awareness and prevention week). A prayer Service was held on Monday, October 26 and each student received a red ribbon. Pencils and wrist bands were handed out which said "Say No to Drugs." Aary Boone, our 8th grade students was a winner in the Archdiocesan Poetry Contest about the danger of drugs. The School Spirit Committee helped paint faces for the faculty/student volleyball game which wrapped up the activities.

If you would like more information about St. Peter School, call Joan McCain the school Principal at 847-673-0918.

St. Peter Catholic School Youth Perform at Loyola Academy

St. Peter's students performed excellently at the Loyola Academy Middle School Choral Music Festival on November 4. Twenty-six of St. Peter's finest did a great job of respresenting St. Peter School and adding their voices to an outstanding day of song and fellowship. Congratulations to our singers and to Ms. Dusell for organizing this wonderful event.

Twinderella Opens Nov. 20

Meet Bob, Cinderella's long-lost brother. While brother and sister live in the same kingdom, they have different wicked stepfamilies. In *Twinderella*, Charlie Lovett's hilarious twist on the well-known fairy tale Cinderella, Cinderella's evil family makes her rotate the tires and polish bowling trophies. Bob gets to make dried herb wreaths and organize sock drawers. The Evanston Children's Theatre presents this show with lots of twists and plenty of laughs for audiences of all ages. Performances are at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20; 3 & 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21; and 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22, at the Levy Center, 300 Dodge Ave., Evanston. Tickets for *Twinderella* are \$6 and are available at the door. For more information, call 847-448-8250.

POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE SEEKS DONATIONS OF TOYS FOR CHILDREN AT CHRISTMAS

The Polish National Alliance (PNA) is sponsoring their annual drive of new toys, games and monetary donations for local needy children at Christmas.

There will be a collection box in the front lobby of the Polish National Alliance Home Office, located at 6100 North Cicero Avenue, Chicago, Illinois and both locations of the PNA Banks, 7840 N Milwaukee Ave. - Niles and 4800 S. Pulaski - Chicago, for the toy donations until Friday, December 11, 2008. Please, only unwrapped toys for boys and girls up to age 16. After the deadline, the donated toys for the children will be delivered to the Shriner's Hospital in Chicago, in time for Christmas.

The monetary donations will be collected from Vice President Paul C. Odrobina's Office, where the money will go to purchase additional toys and gifts for the children in the name of the donor.

For additional information, please call the Polish National Alliance at 1-773-286-0500 ext. 316. or visit the PNA Website at www.pna-znp.org

The Polish National Alliance is the largest Polish Fraternal Organization and founded in 1880.

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LOCAL SCHOOLS & YOUTH EVENTS

DISTRICT 219 HOLDING FREE SOFTBALL CLINIC FOR GIRLS 10 AND UNDER ON NOV. 21

Girls 10 and under who aspire to be top softball players are invited to attend a free Invitational Clinic held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 21 in the Niles West Field House at 5701 Oakton, Skokie. Niles West Head Softball Coach Steven Ramseyer and Niles North Head Softball Coach Karin Wick will work closely with the players as they go through a series of drills and get feedback on their abilities. Players will be taught the same fundamentals expected at the high school level and will also benefit from a hitting coach and pitching lesson opportunities. District 219's objective is to launch a 10U (age 10 and under) travel softball team, bringing together all the top players from Morton Grove, Lincolnwood and Skokie for a fun, competitive experience. After the clinic, the Head Coaches will discuss plans for developing the District 219 travel program. Please contact Coach Karin Wick at (847) 626-2283 or Coach Steven Ramseyer at (847) 626-2805 with questions.

NILES WEST'S STEP UP AGAINST CANCER EVENT ALSO A FUNDRAISER FOR CAITLIN BULL FOUNDATION

Niles West High School is holding its second annual Family Fitness Night on Thursday, December 3, in the Dance Studio at 5701 Oakton, Skokie. The event is billed as Step Up Against Cancer and is a fun fitness event for all ages, as well as a fundraiser in honor of Caitlin Bull, a Niles West class of 2007 graduate who succumbed to a rare form of cancer this year. Families are invited to the Step Up Against Cancer to learn tips on getting fit and getting healthy, in addition to raising money for the Caitlin Bull Foundation. For admission for the event, participants may make a donation; each contributor gets a raffle ticket for a prize drawing. The evening will feature a cardiovascular and toning aerobics class, as well as an informational session on cancer awareness. Niles West Physical Welfare teacher Heidi Splinter will lead the class. All District 219 students, families and staff are invited. (All District 219 Physical Welfare and Health teachers are offering extra credit for participation!) Space is limited; please register in advance at (847) 626-2814.

DISTRICT 219 SCHOOLS PREPARING FOR HOLIDAY SEASON WITH SCHEDULE OF CONCERTS

Looking to get in the holiday spirit? Mark your calendars for these free holiday concerts at the Niles Township High Schools. Niles North High School is located at 9800 Lawler, Skokie and Niles West High School is at 5701 Oakton, Skokie. These concerts are open to the community.

Sunday, December 6, 3 p.m. Choir Holiday Concert, Niles West Auditorium

Wednesday, December 9, 7:30 p.m., Flute Choir Concert, Niles North Codell Commons

Thursday, December 10, 7:30 p.m., Winter Band Concert, Niles North Auditorium

Saturday, December 12, 7:30 p.m., Jazz & Steel Bands Concert, Niles North Auditorium

Sunday, December 13, 3 p.m., Orchestra Holiday Concert, Niles West Auditorium

Tuesday, December 15, 7:30 p.m., Band Holiday Concert, Niles West Auditorium

Wednesday, December 16, 7:30 p.m., Choir/Orchestra Holiday Concert, Niles North Auditorium

OPEN STUDIO PROJECT Children's Art Classes

Support your child's creativity in an open, playful atmosphere where adventurous use of materials is encouraged. Children will explore a variety of 2-D and 3-D projects. Taught by Jan Ellenstein who has been making art fun for children for the last 30 years. Age Level: 2-5 yrs (parent/child class)

Tuesday Mornings, 10-11am, Nov 3 - Dec 15 (no class 11/10, 12/8)

Wednesday Mornings, 10-11am Oct 28 - Dec 16 (no class 11/11, 11/25)

Wednesday Afternoons 1:30 -2:30pm, Nov 18- Dec 16 (no class 11/25, 12/2)

You may register here or call (847) 475 - 0390 for more information.

LINCOLNWOOD LIBRARY

4000 W. Pratt Ave. • (847) 677-5277
www.lincolnwoodlibrary.org

Afterschool Cafe. Mondays, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Students of all ages can buy a snack and relax before tackling homework!

Stories & More. Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Children ages 3-5 enjoy language-rich activities during each 45-minute session. Siblings welcome.

Beginning with Books. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Stories, songs, and activities for infants to 2-year-olds and a caregiver.

Playtime at the Library. Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. A friendly, social time for young children, ages 3 and under, and their caregivers. Toys and snacks are provided for the children.

Teen Acting Class. Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. through Nov. 16. Students in 6th grade and up can learn acting techniques, study characters and lines, and try out for parts. Please register in the Youth Services Department (847-677-5277 x234. Students in the class will perform in a "Fairytale Who Dunit" play in November.

Knitting for All Ages. Fridays, 3:30-5 p.m. Adults and children, ages 10 and up, can learn to knit or work on a project.

St. Peter Catholic School

"The Key to Excellence"
OPEN HOUSE



**Wednesdays December 2nd
& December 9th
From 9:00 am to 11:00 am**

COME AND SEE ALL OUR SCHOOL HAS TO OFFER

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- All-Day Kindergarten

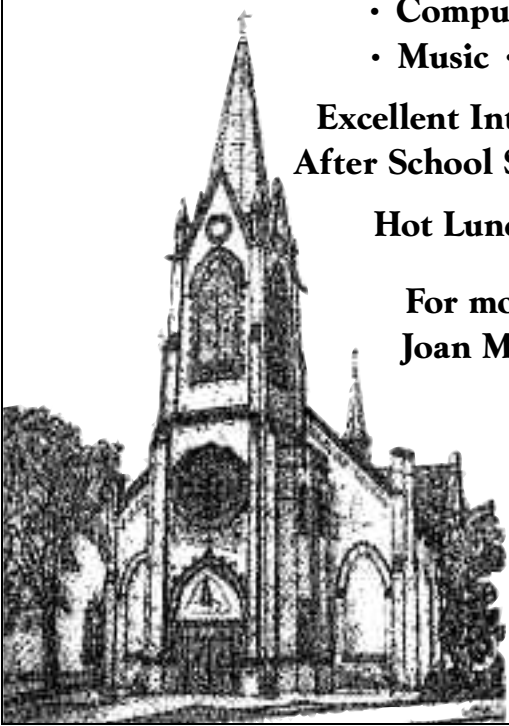
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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Bringing the Joy of Christmas to America’s Needy Children

In the fall of 1947, Diane Hendricks crafted a homemade doll and asked her husband Bill, a United States Marine Corps Reservist, to deliver the doll to an organization that provided toys for needy children. No such agency existed, so Major Bill Hendricks and a group of Los Angeles based Reservists started one. Toys for Tots was born.

Because Hendricks was also the director of public relations for Warner Brothers Studio, he leveraged his connections to assemble an impressive roster of celebrities who helped generate enthusiasm about the program. In 1949, Walt Disney crafted the Toys for Tots logo still in use today.

So successful was Hendricks’ launch that the U.S. Marine Corps adopted the program and expanded it nationwide. Each community around the country with a Marine Reserve Center would collect toys and distribute them at Christmastime to underprivileged children.

In the early years, both new and used toys were collected and distributed, but in the late 70s and early 80s, that directive began to change. Reservists were focusing their time and efforts on combat skills and less time was available to refurbish used toys. Concurrently, public awareness about health and safety raised concerns about distributing used toys. Perhaps most important, the message Marines wanted to send to needy children was that they were worthy individuals, that they could transform their lives – delivering second-hand toys to them seemed to diminish that message and so in 1980, the program began accepting only new, still-packaged toys.

In its 60 plus years, the Toys for Tots program has delivered more than 400 million toys to 188 million children. The Toys for Tots Foundation has supplemented local toy collections with more than 81 million toys. Last year, local campaigns were conducted in 657 communities in all 50 United States, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Here in Chicagoland, toys are collected each October to mid-December by the 2nd Battalion, 24th Marines.

The now-famous Chicagoland Toys for Tots Motorcycle Parade first roared through town in 1978 with six participants and a van half-filled with toys. Last year, despite bone-chilling nine degree temperatures and snow, some 500 bikers rode 20 miles and delivered nearly 3,500 toys! The 2009 parade takes place December 6. It begins at dawn at Dan Ryan Woods (83rd and Western) and finishes at Lane Tech High School (Addison and Western)

The Marine Corps Reserve Training Center is located at 3034 W. Foster Avenue in Chicago. Drop-off centers are located throughout the city and suburbs. For more information, visit <http://chicagotoysfortots.org> or contact Gunnery Sergeant Michael Michalski at 773-539-6464, Ext. 311 or e-mail Michael.j.michalski@usmc.mil

*Happy Holidays to All of Our Active
Duty Military Personnel
From the Staff of Village Publications*

Doherty Nominated for Senate Seat

41st Ward Alderman Brian G. Doherty filed as a candidate for the 10th Senatorial District on Monday, November 2, 2009. This seat is being vacated by Senator James DeLeo, D- 10th District.

Doherty said he wants to broaden his horizons for the benefit of the community. “I believe that the state, being under one-party control, has put itself in shambles,” he said. “There is political infighting, and you basically have dominant one-party rule with no checks and balances.” Doherty went on to say that he wants to fight any proposed income tax hikes, cut any ineffectual social programs and increase capital spending for area public schools.

Alderman Doherty believes that our community suffers from the abuse of T.I.F. (Tax Increment Financing) funds which drain resources from our area. “These T.I.F. funds have become private piggy banks for certain areas while our community suffers from school overcrowding,” says Doherty. “7 of the top 10 Chicago Public Elementary Schools are located in the 41st Ward yet we continue to suffer overcrowding because we do not qualify for Tax Increment Financing. This abuse must be stopped.”

Doherty feels that one party control has led to the state being over \$10 billion in debt, not to mention the billions owed to the pension funds. “The Democrats’, who control the Governorship, both Houses of the Legislature and every constitutional office, answer is to raise taxes or borrow more money. Enough of their political infighting and spending,” Doherty said.

“The state is in desperate need of checks and balances to straighten the budget out. The Democrats have proven that they cannot or will not do it on their own,” Doherty stated. Alderman Doherty has been the lone Republican on the Chicago City Council for the past 19 years. He says he has the best record on taxes, is a fiscal conservative and has proven he is independent and can work both sides of the aisle for the benefit of his constituents and for the state of Illinois. “People are tired of the constant political infighting, ongoing corruption and rising taxes and debt. I plan on running a clean, issue-oriented campaign and appreciate this opportunity,” Doherty concluded.



Brian G. Doherty



Mike’s Barber Shop
accepting donations of new, unwrapped
toys until December 23

773-775-2771 • 6680 Northwest Highway, Chicago

“It’s not just about you anymore, it’s about a team and trying to complete the missions at hand.” Airman Edward Witherspoon III

A Salute to Chicagoans in Service

As a tribute to the men and women on active military duty overseas, the next several editions of Our Village will feature stories about Chicagoans in service aboard the USS Nimitz.

Airman Edward Witherspoon enlisted in the Navy to see the world and move his life forward. He has been on active duty for 13 months. A native Chicagoan, a Bears and Sox fan with two brothers and five sisters, Witherspoon graduated from Hyde Park Career Academy and attended Stillman College. He’s a talented athlete, too, who enjoys football, wrestling, and baseball.

As an Aviation Boatswain’s Mate aboard the lead ship of America’s greatest class of aircraft carriers, his day-to-day duties include directing the aircraft between the hangar bay and flight deck. With launches and recoveries less than a minute apart, his job is of the utmost importance. If the plane isn’t moved quickly, the next one cannot land.

This is his first tour, but Witherspoon sees himself as part of a team, always looking out for others and willing to give his all for his fellow shipmates. He explains, “I did not believe I would stop being an individual until I joined the Nimitz crew. My outlook has changed drastically. After joining I started helping my community more by giving back and I thought about the next person and not just myself. I believe the military makes you a better person.” Asked what he misses most about civilian life – aside from family and friends, of course, Witherspoon quickly replies: “my car!” Family and friends miss him very much, but appreciate the important work he is doing on behalf of his country. Airman Witherspoon is a highly-skilled serviceman with a tenacious sense of duty and teamwork – we can all sleep a little easier knowing he has our back.



Airman
Edward Witherspoon

USS NIMITZ AT-A-GLANCE

The lead ship of America’s largest class of aircraft carriers
Crew of nearly 3,000 (when deployed, the airwing brings 2,000 more)
Commanding officer, Captain Michael C. Manazir
Commissioned May 3, 1975
More than 23 stories high from keel to mast
Area of flight deck = 4.5 acres
One million tons of mail is processed each year and about 20,000 meals are prepared each day!
Nimitz has a fully equipped dental facility staffed by five dentists.
Four distilling units enable engineers to prepare 400,000 gallons of fresh water per day for use by the nuclear-powered propulsion plants, catapults, and crew
Primary offensive weapon is the ability to launch and recover high performance jet aircraft from the flight deck. Can deploy aircraft on a range of missions, including patrols, anti-submarine warfare, surveillance, and rescue missions.
Aircraft used aboard the USS Nimitz include: F/A-18E/F Super Hornet, SH-60F/H Seahawk, C-2A Greyhound, E-2C Hawkeye 2000, and EA-6B Prowler.



"A Theatre Review"

"Young Frankenstein"
Cadillac Palace Theatre
151 W. Randolph Street
Chicago, Illinois

Reviewed by Richard Allen Eisenhardt

Broadway in Chicago has brought Mel Brooks' "Young Frankenstein" to Chicago and they can look to have a hit on their hands. Brooks has plenty of shtick in the musical version but if you are looking for another "Producers" you'll be disappointed. Brooks over the years is a successful comedian as well as screenwriter, playwright and songwriter. We understand he wants to turn "Blazing Saddles" into a major Broadway Musical next. It probably won't be ready until late 2010 or mid 2011.

If you like the comedy of Mel Brooks you'll have a great time seeing this show.

Forget the negative reviews in New York papers. One Chicago critic saw it in New York and didn't care for it but gave the Road Show a passing grade. The other liked it when they saw it in New York and went a bit overboard with her review and my comments are in between the two. I'd go back and see it again.

I thought the cast for the road company was excellent and two of the stars, Roger Bart as Frederick Frankenstein and Shuler Hensley play the monster as they did on Broadway.

Other first rate performances are Cory English as Igor, Brad Oscar as Inspector Kemp and Hermit, Beth Curry as Elizabeth, Anne Horak as Inga and Joanna Glushk as Frau Blucher.

I found some of the music impressive – namely, "Please Don't Touch Me," "Together Again," "He Vas My Boyfriend" and "Listen to Your Heart."

The show is an expensive one with a cast of twenty-six performers and runs two hours and thirty-five minutes.

Susan Stroman's direction and choreography are perfect, especially the dancing.

The book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan has a few slow sluggish moments but on the whole it won't put you to sleep.

New Yorkers may have been charged \$450 for a ticket but at \$95 Chicago is getting a bargain.

Bart as the grandson of Victor Frankenstein is top-drawer talent. Shuler Hensley as the monster gives the audience a tour de force performance, especially in 'Putting on the Ritz' number. "Young Frankenstein" runs through December 13th. For performance dates, show times and reservations call 800-775-2000. Tickets are \$30-\$95. **-Three Stars-**

J. O'Reilly Productions & Evanston SPACE present The Jamie O'Reilly & Anne Hills Christmas Show with Paul Amandes

Featuring The Gift of the Magi, Radio Musical by Michael Smith, with Paul Amandes, as Narrator Nia O'Reilly Amandes as "Della" and Patrick Cannon as "Jim" PLUS Yuletide Songs & Carols

With MUSICIANS: Peter Swenson guitar Bob Weber cello, Katrina O'Reilly-Greene piano Kelvin Lin violin Al Ehrich bass, Nia and Meg O'Reilly Amandes, vocals

Sunday, December 13 7:00 PM - 10 PM
SPACE 1245 Chicago Evanston, IL 60202
PH 847.492.8860 Tickets \$20 Adv. \$25 Door, GROUP RATES, Call 312.458.0822 www.evanstonospace.com/calendar_dec.html

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Group Rate Available

Ticket prices do not include service fees

Buy tickets online at www.skokietheatre.org

November 21 · 8:00 pm Heather Moran in "I Told You I Loved Ya, Now Get Out"
Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door.

November 22 · 2:00 pm Marianne Murphy Orland: Tribute to Karen Carpenter
Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.

November 22 · 7:00 pm A Simple Life: A Short Film and Discussion Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.

November 25 · 1:30 pm BIG BAND SERENADE with Jack Miuccio

November 28 · 8:00 pm and November 29 · 2:00 pm Jim Post Birthday Concert

December 2 · 1:30 pm The 50's Songbook with Marcus Gentry

December 4 · 1:30 pm AN AMERICAN TRILOGY

December 4 · 8:00 pm Ron Hawking: Impressions of Christmas

December 5 · 11:00 am Jodi Koplin's Jiggglejam Presents: A Holiday Jinglejam with Special Guests, The Fire Ants

December 5 · 8:00 pm The Edge Comedy Club presents Hometown Stand-Ups 2

December 6 · 2:00 pm Classical Tidings with Jeanne Scherkenbach, Rachel Renee, Jeremy Rill, and Matt Richardson

December 9 · 2:00 pm Jack Miuccio in Frank Sinatra's Birthday Party

December 12 · 8:00 pm and December 13 · 2:00 pm Guitars of Spain

Beloved Holiday Ballet Skates on Ice

Nutcracker on Ice takes to the ice Dec. 11-13 at the Robert Crown Center, 1701 Main St., Evanston. For four performances, hundreds of skaters of all ages will tell the familiar Christmas tale, bringing to life such characters as Clara, Drosselmeyer and the Nutcracker Prince. Complete with exquisite costumes, Tchaikovsky's familiar music and exciting special effects, this family show is a wonderful way for young and old to catch the holiday spirit.

Evanston residents skating solo parts include Annie Bennett, Imani Bournes, Elnora Bracey, Matthew Bracey-Sherman, Madeline Brooks, Emma Caroli, Blythe Chesney, Eleanor Clark, Vanessa Claude, Emily Cline, Ryen Delaney, Maya Fagen, Lily Freedman, Mariah Garcia, Olivia Gerasole, Peggy Giordano, Tina Giordano, Olivia Grenzebach, Teresa Grodsky, Miara Handler, Emily Hosman, Erin Hunter, Reyanna James, Ginny Johnson, Anna Keeva, Eva Kennedy, Ella Lambert, Linwan Lewis, Ron Lopez, Mallory Mancini, Heather Millikan, Olivia Mitchell, Isabel Riches, Chelsea Ridley, Earin Ridley, Grace Robertson, Remi Schreder, Ariel Simmons, Paul Simmons, Sofia Simon, Leia Sohn, Abby Stein, Mathilda Sullivan, Alex Swanson, Morgan Sweeney, Anatolia Syed, and Zoe Wilson.

Performances of Nutcracker on Ice are at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11; 2:30 & 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12; and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. Available now, general admission tickets are \$8.50 and reserved seats are \$9.50. Group discounts are available. For more information, call 847-448-8258.



porchlight music theatre
Adapted by
Patricia DiBenedetto Snyder,
Will Severin, and John Vreeke
Story by
Valentine Davies
Screenplay by
George Seaton

\$10 off \$40 tickets Code: TRADE

When a white-bearded gentleman claims to be the real Santa Claus, he brings about a genuine 'Miracle on 34th Street,' spreading a wave of love throughout New York City, convincing a divorced, cynical single mother, her somber daughter, and the entire state of New York that Santa Claus is no myth. You, too, will believe!

Bring the kids to see Santa!

November 20 through January 3

Fridays at 8:00pm, Saturdays at 2:30pm and 8:00pm Sundays at 2:30pm



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www.theatrebuildingchicago.org

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Also Ticketmaster **800-982-2787** and ticketmaster.com www.Porchlighttheatre.com



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A CHRISTMAS CAROL
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Pet Planning – Not Just for the Rich and Eccentric



Chester M. Przybylo

When people think of someone setting up a Trust for their pet, they might imagine Leona Helmsley’s pet Maltese named Trouble drinking Perrier from a crystal bowl in a lavish Manhattan penthouse. However, you don’t have to be rich and eccentric to set up a Pet Trust to care for your beloved pet(s). Pet Trusts are most commonly set up by caring individuals who just want to make sure that their non-human family member is taken care of in the event of their own death or disability. This article discusses the 3 easy steps necessary to set up a Pet Trust for your furry

and feathered family members. Remember, without you planning for them in advance, they may face the same awful fate that awaits so many other orphaned pets. You will sleep better knowing that they will continue purring or wagging their tail even if you’re no longer able to care for them.

Setting up a Pet Trust is as easy as 1-2-3 when you go to a qualified estate planning attorney who has experience with setting up such trusts. First, you need to decide who would be willing and able to provide the love and attention your pet deserves. Who will get your dog’s tail wagging or get your cat purring? You should name this person as your pet’s caretaker.

Next, you need to consider how much money should be set aside for your pet’s future care. While Helmsley left \$12 million to her dog, Trouble, your pet probably does not need to pay \$100,000 a year for security and \$8,000 a year for grooming! In order to calculate your pet’s needs, simply estimate the annual expenses for your pet’s food, grooming, medical care, and other needs and multiply that by your pet’s likely remaining lifespan. You may want to include some money as a reward to the caretaker for taking on the responsibility of providing the love and attention necessary to provide a happy home for your orphaned pet.

Finally, you need to consider who will manage and distribute the money you have set aside for your pet’s care. This person is the Trustee of the Pet Trust. The Trustee could be the same person who is providing the care for your pet, it could be another trusted friend or family member or it could be a professional Trustee or charity involved with caring for pets.

You plan for your human family, leaving them money and painstakingly considering Guardians, Trustees, and Executors. Your furry and feathered family members deserve consideration, too! Remember, without you planning for them in advance, they may face the same awful fate that awaits so many other orphaned pets. Contact an estate planning attorney who focuses in this area today to set up a Pet Trust for your special friend. You will sleep better knowing that they will continue purring or wagging their tail even if you’re no longer able to care for them.

Chester M. Przybylo has been elected to the Board of Governors of the prestigious American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys and has been engaged in the practice of law for the last 40 years. For more information or to attend an upcoming seminar, call (773) 631-2525.

*Happy Holiday Season to
All of Our Friends and Neighbors*

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Everyone Wins When You Make Charitable Gifts



Neil Gardner

It’s Thanksgiving time again. Like everyone, you have many things in your life for which you are thankful. And you may want to show your appreciation for what you have by making a gift to a charitable organization. If you do, both you and the charitable group can come out ahead.

Of course, it’s no secret that 2009 has been a pretty rough year, with most of us feeling the effects of the recession in one way or another. Consequently, you may feel that you can’t really afford to make charitable gifts right now. But there’s probably never been a more urgent need for these gifts, as the distressed economy has led to a decline in contributions for charities across the country. Furthermore, your charitable gift can provide you with some distinct economic advantages.

Specifically, by making charitable contributions, you can gain these tax benefits:

- You can take an immediate tax deduction. If you itemize your taxes, you can deduct your contributions to charitable organizations, as long as they are “tax qualified.” (Be sure to ask the organization if it has tax-qualified status.) Your tax deductions for charitable contributions are generally limited to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income. (If you want to claim a deduction for the 2009 tax year, you’ll need to make your contribution before Jan. 1.)
- You can avoid capital gains taxes. If you want to support a charitable group, you’re not limited to making cash contributions — you can also donate other assets, such as stocks or real estate. If you’ve held these assets for a long time, their value may have risen considerably, despite the volatility of the financial and real estate markets the past couple of years. If they have appreciated, and you wanted to sell them, you’d have to pay capital gains taxes on your profits. But if you donate these assets, you can avoid the capital gains liability while still claiming the tax deduction.
- You can remove assets from your taxable estate. In 2010, the estate tax is repealed, but it will be back in 2011. Estate taxes can be heavy, and if your heirs aren’t prepared for them, they may have to sell assets to pay them. To possibly help avoid this problem, you may want to reduce the value of your taxable estate. One way of doing this — and of also receiving an immediate income tax deduction — is to donate assets, such as investments and property, to a charitable group. If you want to still enjoy the benefits of these assets while you’re alive, you could transfer them to a charitable remainder trust, which can then sell them and reinvest the proceeds, out of which you could receive an income stream for life. Upon your death, the charity you have designated will receive the remainder of the trust’s assets. (To properly establish this type of trust, you’ll need to work with a qualified legal advisor.)

As you can see, the old saying “when you give, you also receive” is certainly true when it comes to making charitable donations. So, during the upcoming holiday season, be as generous as possible — to charitable groups and to yourself.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones does not provide tax or legal advice.

Neil Gardner is a financial advisor with Edward Jones, 9175 Gross Point Road, Skokie, IL 60077, 847-933-9845.

SHERIFF WARNS RESIDENTS OF HOME IMPROVEMENT SCAMS

Cook County Sheriff’s Police have been investigating numerous reports of home improvement scams throughout suburban Cook County. Sheriff Tom Dart warns residents to be aware and take precautions to avoid becoming a victim of these scams.

These ‘gypsy’ scam artists target senior citizens and use the same basic scenario to commit their crime: one offender engages the homeowner in conversation while another enters the residence, taking cash, jewelry and other valuables in plain sight that are easily concealed and removed. They use many ruses to gain the homeowner’s immediate trust, including stating they work for a utility company and that a problem has been reported in the area or that they work for a company that specializes in a specific type of repair, which they happened to notice needs to be made on the house as they were driving by.

“Homeowners should take basic safety precautions, such as making sure doors and windows are locked and valuables like money and jewelry and kept in a safe, secure place, when not being used,” said Dart. “They should also be suspicious of anyone who shows up on their doorstep, unsolicited, offering to make specific repairs.”

The subjects have been described as males, between the ages of 20’s to 40’s, average height and weight, of Hispanic or Middle Eastern descent. Additional steps that should be taken to avoid becoming a victim include:

- Don’t invite strangers into your home, especially if you are home alone
- Ask to see a work i.d. card – remember, utility company employees should have their i.d. displayed
- If someone tells you they are with a utility, call that utility to verify work is being done in your area
- Ask them to leave a brochure and/or business card in your mailbox
- Call your local police department if they persist and won’t leave
- Sheriff’s Police are asking anyone who may have been a victim of one of these scams or anyone with any information to contact the Investigations Unit at (708) 865-4896.

Does an Older Family Member Need Help?

You accept that your parents or family friends are getting older, but you may wonder how to provide the best care for them, in your unique situation. As the holidays draw closer, the time may be right to pay particular attention to your older relatives and how they’re managing everyday tasks and responsibilities. You may want to consider whether changes need to be made to keep your family members thriving and safe.

Noticing Changes in Your Family Members

When you see your family only on holidays and special occasions, it may be harder (or much easier) to detect potential problems. And if your parents are still living together, keep in mind that they may compensate for each other’s weaknesses, making it easy to miss the changes during brief visits.

In earlier stages, memory loss issues may not be present all the time. Some days or times of day may be better than others.

When it comes to mental changes — Alzheimer’s or other forms of memory loss — there are certain signals to look for:

- Problems with managing finances, talking, menu planning, food preparation, sleeping, managing medications
- An overall unkempt appearance and disregard for personal cleanliness
- Changes in appetite and food preferences (e.g., excessive interest in sweets)
- Faulty reasoning skills (e.g., they may believe they must enter sweepstakes, or contribute excessively to a cause)
- Stacks of mail and unpaid bills lying around
- Forgetfulness or loss of short-term memory
- Depression

Experts suggest you seek help, but not jump to conclusions. If several of these things are happening with your family member, go with them to talk to their doctor. A medical evaluation may reveal that a medical condition or medications are causing the unusual behavior.

Stress, depression, nutritional deficiencies, Parkinson’s disease and other illnesses may also cause memory loss. You may wish to explore this issue further by reading *The Complete Eldercare Planner*, by Joy Loverde. Updated and Revised, 2009, published by Random House.

Seeking Help From Local and Online Resources

If you see some worrisome changes in your parents’ behaviors, involve other siblings or family in the discussion. While it may seem like the weight of the world is on your shoulders, you don’t have to be alone.

There are a wealth of resources available, both online and from local social service and governmental organizations. You might seek advice about senior services and concerns from the Cook County Suburban Area Agency on Aging

at 800-699-9043 or see their website at www.suburban-age.org.

You can reach the Chicago Department on Aging at 312-744-4016 to ask for printed materials or advice. Go online to egov.cityofchicago.org and click through “residents” and then “health and human services” to find the list of their services for seniors.

Additionally, a number of not-for-profit organizations have services for older adults. You might check with local faith communities who sponsor retirement housing and other services - two of the largest are Catholic Charities and the Jewish Federation of Chicago. You can reach Catholic Charities at 847-782-4000 or see their list of senior-oriented services at www.catholiccharities.net/services.

The Jewish United Fund and the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago offer a directory of their services, including a printed “Guide to Jewish Living,” at www.juf.org/guide/default.aspx. Their phone number is 312-357-4848.

Other not-for-profit organizations have been helping families find the answers they need for generations. One locally based website shares ideas and answers to questions about caring for older adults. You can visit www.SeniorCareAnswerTeam.org to get answers to such questions as:

- Does Mom or Dad need help?
 - What Do These Senior-Care Terms Mean?
 - What Are Our Options for Care?
 - What Can We Afford?
 - How Do I Start the Conversation with my Family?
- The site offers helpful internet links to nationally recognized organizations and downloads of materials on senior-care topics.

By Theresa P. Paulin, Presbyterian Homes, Evanston, Illinois;
847-866-1643

Join the Lincolnwood Social Club (55+)

Are you tired of staying home? Would you like to do fun and exciting things? Do you want to make a few new friends? Then why not join the Lincolnwood Social Club 55+. You do not have to be a resident of Lincolnwood to join. We go to exciting places every week in addition to the numerous special events held at our Community Center. Give us a call and find out what we are all about, our number is (847) 677-9740. This is one phone call you won’t be sorry that you made.



*Mom always helped you with the big decisions.
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It’s not easy finding the right situation for your mom as her health needs change. The answer is The Highlands of Evanston Assisted Living community at Westminster Place.

Our experienced staff is specially trained to provide your mother with the attention and care she deserves. Registered nurses administer medication, while resident assistants check on her, help with dressing, and keep her safe 24 hours a day.

We also give your mom, dad or Aunt Betty every opportunity to enjoy life to the fullest. We encourage residents to have new experiences, plus continue doing the things they love.

Because at Presbyterian Homes and The Highlands of Evanston Assisted Living community, caring is more than just a word – it’s a different language. To reserve a time for lunch and a visit, call Carol Tatarowicz at 847-866-1615.

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GREAT OUTDOORS

Nat’l Wildlife Federation: Woolly Bear Season

A telltale sign of autumn is the appearance of woolly bear caterpillars moving across backyards, sidewalks and roads. These fat, furry caterpillars are looking for safe places to spend the winter. They spend the cold months dormant under decaying logs and fallen leaves, and in this state can survive temperatures well below freezing. Come spring, they’ll create cocoons and pupate, eventually emerging as Isabella tiger moths (*Pyrrharctia isabella*).

These cute black and reddish-brown caterpillars are famed for being able to predict the oncoming winter. According to folklore, the wider the caterpillar’s brown band, the less severe winter will be. A smaller brown band means you’re in store for a very harsh winter. But is it true? According to the Farmer’s Almanac, there just might be some validity to the story.

Adapted from materials provided by USDA/Agricultural Research Service. Contact us at info@nwf.org, 1-800-822-9919, National Wildlife Federation, 11100 Wildlife Center Drive, Reston VA, 20190. © 2008 National Wildlife Federation. All rights reserved.

Millennium Park’s Holiday Tradition Returns! CAROLING AT CLOUD GATE

Featuring Sing-Alongs with Chicago Choral Groups
Friday Evenings from November 27 through December 18, 2009 at 6 PM
Celebrate the holidays in Millennium Park, when Caroling at Cloud Gate returns on Friday evenings each week throughout the holiday season. Chicagoans and visitors alike are invited to Cloud Gate to hear the beautiful voices of different Chicago choral groups, including the Apollo Chorus of Chicago, the Chicago Children’s Choir, the Old Town School of Folk Music and the Wooten Choral Ensemble and participate in a holiday sing-along.

Caroling at Cloud Gate runs Friday evenings from November 27 through December 18, 2009. The singing will begin at 6pm and run approximately 50 minutes. Admission is free. Caroling at Cloud Gate is supported by the Comer Foundation, with complimentary coffee and hot chocolate courtesy of Caribou Coffee. After the holiday sing-along, everyone is encouraged to skate at Millennium Park’s McCormick Tribune Ice Rink, one of the most popular winter destinations in the city.

“Now in its fourth year, Caroling at Cloud Gate has truly become a cherished winter tradition in Chicago. Each week, we have hundreds of singers gathering in the Park, creating a magical holiday scene in the center of the city,” said Lois Weisberg, Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs.

For more information on Millennium Park or on Caroling at Cloud Gate visit www.millenniumpark.org or call 312.742.1168. The complete Caroling at Cloud Gate schedule is:

Friday, November 27 Apollo Chorus of Chicago
When the Apollo Chorus of Chicago sings, great choral works come alive!
Founded in 1872 after the Great Chicago Fire, this powerful 150-voice chorus is one of the city’s most exciting and talked-about musical organizations. Each season Apollo thrills audiences with beautiful music old and new, winning praise for its performances – especially for Handel’s Messiah. The Apollo Chorus performs a wide range of masterworks for chorus and orchestra and is under the direction of Music Director and Conductor Stephen Alltop.

Friday, December 4 Chicago Children’s Choir
The Chicago Children’s Choir is a multiracial, multicultural choral music education organization dedicated to shaping the future by making a difference in the lives of children and youth through musical excellence. Today, The Chicago Children’s Choir serves more than 3,000 young singers and is America’s largest, most comprehensive organization devoted to the musical education of children. By developing musical skills and performing in public, the children acquire poise, increased self-esteem, and an understanding that discipline and hard work bring rewards.

Urban Wildlife Coalition: Fall Tips for Deer Safety

Here on Chicago’s northwest side, in the middle of a booming metropolis, we are lucky to occasionally still see large mammals (besides humans, that is!), native wildlife like our region’s white-tailed deer.

Deer habitat and food sources are systematically being destroyed by us, and so they venture out into areas more populated by humans than they otherwise would, sometimes by accident, sometimes in search of food.

During the late fall/early winter, a period called the “rut,” bucks compete with one another to find a mate. If you pay attention, you may notice males acting differently, perhaps more boldly than other times of year. White-tailed deer are gentle by nature; they tend to shun humans, preferring the safety of the woods. Here are a few tips to help ensure deer and human safety during this time of year.

Enjoy our wildlife neighbors at a respectful distance, approximately 15 feet or more.

On nature hikes, keep dogs on a leash and remind children not to chase wildlife.

Many animals may interpret a direct eye-to-eye gaze as aggression. Avoid the stare-down.

During the rut, you may notice bucks with thick necks making more noise than usual in the woods. They are searching for a mate, and to accomplish this task, must intimidate other bucks and establish territory. If you see or hear bucks fighting, simply walk away slowly.

During the fall/winter season, bucks may be in hot pursuit of a mate, and this may involve quick chases. If you hear or see deer in a chase, there’s no need for panic, simply stop where you are. Deer will see you and avoid you.

Always, but especially during the rut, drive slowly in deer populated areas (especially on streets adjacent to forest preserves and other natural spaces) – 20 mph or less. While driving, scan the edges of the forest, and allow extra braking space between you and other cars. Your rush hour is their rush hour. Be particularly cautious during dawn and dusk hours.

Urban Wildlife Coalition is a community-based organization founded to help preserve our treasured urban wildlife. For more information about urban animals and tips for living in harmony with them, visit www.urbanwildlife-coalition.org. Questions? Call 773-545-8136 or e-mail us at urbanwildlife-coalition@gmail.com.

THE MCCORMICK TRIBUNE ICE RINK IN MILLENNIUM PARK OPENS FOR THE 9TH SEASON ON NOVEMBER 18

Kicking off Chicago’s winter season, the McCormick Tribune Ice Rink in Millennium Park will open on Wednesday, November 18, 2009 and will remain open through Sunday, March 14, 2010, weather permitting. The rink, now in its ninth season and drawing more than 100,000 skaters annually, is free and open to the public. Skate rental is available for \$10. The ice rink is located on Michigan Avenue between Washington and Madison Streets.



Regular hours for this season are as follows:
Mondays—Thursdays: 12 pm — 8 pm
Fridays: 12 pm — 10 pm
Saturdays (through Jan. 2): 10 am — 10 pm
Saturdays (beginning Jan. 9): 10 am — 9 pm
Sundays: 10 am — 9 pm

Holiday Hours
Thursday, November 26 (Thanksgiving): 10 am — 4 pm
Thursday, December 24: 10 am — 6 pm
Friday, December 25: 10 am — 4 pm
Thursday, December 31: 10 am — 8 pm
Friday, January 1: 12 pm — 10 pm

The ice rink is just one component of the 24.5-acre Millennium Park, which has welcomed more than sixteen million visitors since opening in July 2004. Among Millennium Park’s other prominent features are the Frank Gehry-designed Jay Pritzker Pavilion, the most sophisticated outdoor concert venue of its kind in the United States; the interactive Crown Fountain by Jaume Plensa; the contemporary Lurie Garden designed by the team of Gustafson Guthrie Nichol, Piet Oudolf and Robert Israel; and Anish Kapoor’s hugely popular Cloud Gate sculpture.

For more information about events in Millennium Park during the winter months, including Caroling at Cloud Gate, visit www.millenniumpark.org, or call 312.742.1168.

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Retirement Planning Questions and Answers

By Andrew Salata, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

Planning for retirement brings many questions: from when and how to file, to what happens to health insurance. Let's go through some questions: To apply for retirement benefits, you can complete your application online from the comfort of your own home or office. There are no paper forms to sign, and usually no additional documents are required. In fact, what used to take an hour or more can be done online in as little as 15 minutes.

Not ready to retire? Regardless of your age or how far away retirement may seem, it's never too early to begin planning. Take a look at your financial future by visiting our helpful Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator. The online tool uses your earnings record along with information that you key in to give you a quick estimate of your future benefits.

Question: Will my benefits increase if I wait and retire after my full retirement age?

Answer: Yes. You can increase your Social Security benefit in two ways: Your benefit will be increased by a certain percentage if you delay retirement. We will add these increases automatically from the time you reach full retirement age until you start taking benefits or reach age 70; and

If you work, each additional year you work adds another year of earnings to your Social Security record. Higher lifetime earnings may result in higher benefits when you do retire.

For more information, read When to Start Receiving Retirement Benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10147.html. You also can use our Retirement Estimator to find out your estimated future benefits.

Question: I have children at home and I plan to retire soon. Will my children be eligible for monthly Social Security payments after I retire?

Answer: They will get monthly Social Security payments if they are: Unmarried and under age 18 (age 19 if still in high school); or Age 18 or over, and became severely disabled before age 22 and continue to be disabled.

This applies to either biological and adopted children as well as dependent stepchildren or grandchildren. For more information read our online publication, Benefits for Children, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10085.html.

MEDICARE

Question: Who is eligible for extra help with Medicare prescription drug costs?

Answer: People who currently have Medicare coverage can get extra help if they have limited income and resources. The extra help can save them money. It pays part of the monthly premiums, annual deductibles and prescription co-payments under the new Medicare prescription drug program. The extra help is estimated to be worth an average of \$3,900 per year. You can help someone qualify and apply at www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp.

Question: What are the income and resource requirements for the extra help with Medicare prescription drug costs?

Answer: If your annual income is under \$16,245 for an individual (or \$21,855 if you are married and living with your spouse), you may qualify for the extra help. Even if your annual income is higher, you still may be able to get some help. To get the extra help with Medicare prescription drug plan costs, your total resources generally must be limited to \$12,510 (or \$25,010 if you are married and living with your spouse). To learn more about the extra help, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp. You also may call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

IDES Re-Employment Workshops

The Evanston office of the Illinois Department of Employment Security, in conjunction with the Evanston Public Library, is pleased to present this free workshop for jobseekers. Workshop will include tips on Available Resources, Networking, Job Applications, Resumes, Interviews, Starting Your New Job, Illinois Skills Match (ISM) (www.illinoisskillsmatch.com). No registration necessary. For more information please call the Library at 847-448-8600. Workshops will be held December 9th at 10:30 am and November 24th and December 23rd at 2:00 pm.

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(312) 644-8338 www.anticruelty.org

The Anti-Cruelty Society is a 501(c)(3) private non-profit organization. Your gift is tax-deductible. Thank you!





Anti-Cruelty Society

For more info on The Anti-Cruelty Society and our adoption process, please visit our website www.anticruelty.org or call (312) 644-8338.

Clyde

Clyde is a very cute 1-1/2 year old Terrier mix with the typical Terrier “wispy” coat. He’s quite energetic and can get excited easily, so for this reason he needs to find an all-adult home. An experienced dog owner would be best for Clyde, someone who will provide regular exercise and obedience classes which will help Clyde work on channeling his energy. Clyde’s a fun and friendly boy who lived previously with a dog and a cat, and would probably enjoy living with a furry friend or friends again. Stop by The Anti-Cruelty Society to visit Clyde soon and ask for tab band # 688669. For more information about animals available for adoption, please call 312.644.8338 after 11:30 a.m.



Scroffy

Wow! Are you looking for the PERFECT cat? Well, look no further, you found him! Scroffy is an absolutely AWE-SOME fellow who is sweet, gentle and very lovable! He is only 2 years old and is a big, huggable guy who came to the shelter when his owner could no longer care for him. He has easily become a volunteer and staff favorite as it hard not to love this big sweet guy. Scroffy would make a wonderful addition to any family, and would be a fantastic companion and friend. When he arrived at the shelter, he had some matting to his fur, so regular brushing will be a must, but what a great way for you and Scroffy to enjoy each other’s company! So what are you waiting for? You have found the PERFECT cat!!!! Run on over to The Anti-Cruelty Society and ask to meet Scroffy, Tab Band #683341 ... he can’t wait to meet you!!! For more information about animals available for adoption, please call 312.644.8338 after 11:30 a.m.



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Pet Howl-iday Tips

The following are some thoughts for my furry friends. Humans please skip to the bottom.

As mentioned before, the howl-idays are a very busy time for our humans. Either they are busy going too or hosting parties. This is a purrfect opportunity for us to maximize what we want most; love, attention, and treats! The following are some tips that I use on my own family to get the most out of this season.

Look your best! Humans love a clean pet; so make sure to get you’re grooming appointment in now!

Tolerate the bandanna, bow, or outfit your human dresses you in. I don’t know why they want to make us deer, but Humans find this adorable and will load on extra love because of it!

Constantly keep your tail waggin’. If you don’t have one, the whole back end works even better!

Stare longingly and loving into the humans eyes. Humans will melt for the pound puppy look, so practice now!

Keep your paws off everything and don’t be too pushy. You will gain more by being paw-tience. I know this is difficult, but it is well worth it!

Try your hardest to keep the yapping and barking to a minimum. However, for attention humans do love some good yodeling or talking!

Perform any trick you know. Yes, giving Paw is beneath us, but the human like it and they always give a treat for it. Rolling over is humiliating, but again the humans love it and the harder they think the trick is, the better our reward!

Pose for the pictures; don’t run. Humans love a good pet shot! Especially if we are in those stupid antler hats!

If you have friends in your home, work together. Eight paws are better then four!

For the humans, please remember us in this busy time. A little extra attention makes a happy and well-behaved pet. Also, remember our pet friends that don’t have the human family we do. We get plenty, so please share. Donate to your local animal shelter or Pet loving organization it will make you feel so good! Happy Howlidays!

Love Bosley



Submitted by Bosley’s mom, Nicole Carfora, CMG, owner of Canine Corral.

Law Governing Pets

The boulevards, parkways and parks in our area are lovely places to walk - until, OOPS, you find your foot in canine fecal matter – dog poop, for short. There is nothing you can do. It is there in the ridges and contours of your shoe.

For everyone who has muttered, “There should be a law,” the news is good. There is a law! Ordinance 7-12-420 of the City Code states, “No person shall appear with a pet upon the public ways or within public places or upon the property of another, absent that person’s consent, without some means for the removal of excrement; nor shall any person fail to remove any excrement deposited by such pet.” There is a penalty for violating the ordinance: “Any person found to have been in violation of this section shall be fined not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$500.00 for each offense.”

In addition to their status as a public nuisance, pet owners violating the law can be classified as public health hazards. Rotting fecal matter spreads disease, feeds rodents, and attracts insects.

The responsibility of pet ownership includes a responsibility to the pet’s neighbors. Bag the dog waste, tie it up, and dispose of it with your garbage. It’s the law!

Santa is ready for the Howlidays, are YOU?



- BOARDING (OVERNIGHT CARE)
- ALL BREED DOG & CAT GROOMING
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What is a “No Kill” Shelter?

by: Tom Van Winkle, Animal Care League

The world of animal welfare is an interesting business. There are so many animal lovers out there who are willing to go to great lengths to aid an animal in need, yet I have never seen an industry with so much in-fighting. We are all working towards the same ultimate goal, yet there is a tremendous amount of mistrust, much of which stems from the often-used term “no kill”.

On the surface, it seems there should be no disagreement on what “no kill” means. Taken literally, it can be, and often is, interpreted as describing a shelter which never puts an animal to sleep, regardless of the situation. In reality though, the term “no kill” refers to a shelter that does not euthanize adoptable animals. The person given credit for inventing the “no kill” movement is Rich Avanzino, who was working at the San Francisco SPCA at the time. Mr. Avanzino witnessed a large number of friendly animals being euthanized because of resource constraints at a local shelter and he wanted to start a movement where animals were not put to sleep simply because a shelter ran out of space. Mr. Avanzino did not mean that animals would never be euthanized, but instead that this terribly sad event would be reserved for only those situations where adoption was not an option. The two most widely seen reasons for euthanasia under the “no kill” movement are to end the suffering of a sick or injured animal and to prevent an animal with an unacceptable or unmanageable level of aggression from being placed in a home, where it would pose too great a risk to the adoptive family. By allowing “no kill” to mean that no animal is ever put to sleep, we not only stray from the term’s original, intended definition, but we also set an unreachable goal. In doing this, we hold ourselves to a standard that we cannot, and should not, attain. This may sound cold hearted, but hear me out.

First, there are some animals whose injuries or illnesses are such that no doctor could return them to a comfortable state of being. Keeping an animal alive, but unable to move without pain, is an inhumane act. This fact alone means that shelters should never be absolute “no kill” facilities. In doing so, we would become purveyors of the very thing we fight against every day: the inhumane treatment of animals.

Secondly, while it is nice to think that there is a home for every animal, the truth is that people do not, and should not, adopt highly aggressive animals. I champion the notion that, often times, it is not the animal’s nature that makes them aggressive, but an owner who “trained” the animal either intentionally or through abuse or neglect. Still, the fact remains that there are some animals that, regardless of how they became that way, have the potential to be very dangerous. We must remember that we are not just talking about adopter safety, but also that of their extended family, friends, neighbors, mail carriers, other animals...in short, anyone who comes into contact with the adoptive individual/family in any way is put at risk when an aggressive animal is adopted out into the community. There are no 100% guarantees, of course, but most people expect that shelters won’t knowingly send an aggressive animal into their neighborhood. While it is very sad to euthanize an animal that was made aggressive by a human, shelters must consider the safety of the adopters and the public when arranging an adoption. And if, in light of this, we accept the fact that there are some animals that are too aggressive to be adopted, then what are that animal’s current options? There are not enough sanctuaries to house them all, so the only other choice is to lock them in a kennel for the rest of their lives. We should consider that this kind of solitary confinement is exactly what we do to our most hardened human criminals. By practicing a strict never-euthanize policy, shelters are subjecting these animals to a life devoid of human or other animal contact, which is incredibly inhumane for social animals like dogs and cats.

Lastly, we must realize that simply not euthanizing an animal does not mean a shelter is “no kill”. Shelters have two choices - they can accept all animals that come to them or they can only take in animals when they have room in the shelter. Neither situation is right or wrong, it is just plain fact. If a shelter is an open facility, meaning they accept all animals, then they run the risk of running out of space and having to euthanize for lack of room, thus they can’t be termed “no kill”. If a shelter is limited intake, meaning they only accept animals when there is room, yet there is a shelter in their area that has to euthanize for space, then they too cannot call themselves “no kill”. I say this because when a limited intake shelter turns an animal away, that animal often times goes to the open facility down the street, where it may eventually be euthanized for space. Simply turning away from the issue does not give a shelter the right to call itself “no kill”. Once a community reaches the point where no shelter has to euthanize for space, then a limited intake facility could truly call itself “no kill”, as defined by Rich Avanzino. This is very rare, but I agree with Mr. Avanzino in that it is a goal worth working towards.

The Animal Care League has always practiced the ideals of the no kill movement in that we never euthanize an animal for lack of time or space. This means we can’t accept every animal that is brought to us, but those that are adoptable stay with us until we find them a new home. Nonetheless, in 2005 we stopped calling ourselves “no kill” because of the misunderstanding of the meaning of this term and because it has become very divisive in the animal welfare world. Open shelters are not the bad guys and should not be looked down upon simply because they can’t call themselves no kill. As evidenced by my example above, none of us can truly call ourselves no kill until we ALL can call ourselves no kill, thus we must work together. Even though the ACL adheres to the no kill policies, we choose not to use a term that creates bad feelings among shelters, and instead, use the term “limited intake”.

Does this mean you will never again see the Animal Care League referred to as a “no kill” shelter? Probably not. We have many supporters who still call us “no kill” because we have consistently practiced the ideals of the movement. And that’s okay. The main point I want people to consider is not which turn of phrase their favorite shelter employs, whether it be “no kill, “limited intake” or “open”, but why shelters exist in the first place. Homeless animals are caused by societies, not shelters. Shelters work every day to do their best to help manage the onslaught of homeless creatures, and I would ask everyone to focus more attention on “what can we all do together to end animal homelessness in our community” and not worry so much about who is and is not calling themselves “no kill”. Because, much as the borders between countries are invisible from the sky, so too are the dividing lines between shelters when viewed from atop the pinnacle of our loftiest goals. When there are so few homeless animals that every shelter has their ‘vacancy’ sign aglow, then, and only then, will any of us truly have achieved the “no kill” ideal.

Village Cooking Corner

No Bake Pumpkin Pudding

1/2 c plus 2T cold water
1 pkg. (1 oz.) instant vanilla pudding
1 can (15 oz.) pumpkin
1/2 t ground cinnamon
1/2 t pumpkin pie spice
1/2 t grated orange peel

In blender, pour water, pudding, etc. Blend low speed until smooth. Refrigerate several hours before serving.

Make 2 - 1 cup servings

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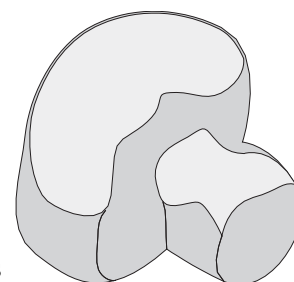
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D. Namlig

We want to hear from you at mushroom@ourvillagechicago.com. We hope that Wild Mushrooms will be a regular feature in this paper, an opportunity for readers to voice legitimate concerns about injustices they experience as consumers and as citizens. P.O. Box 31391, Chicago IL 60631. Contact information will be held in confidence.



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